

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 02139 160955Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 CPR-01 SSC-01 /086 W  
-----004584 161517Z /23

R 160842Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9886  
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
CINCPAC  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2139

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 1165": GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, KS, IS  
SUBJECT: CLOSING OF ISRAELI EMBASSY IN SEOUL

REF: STATE 064907 (NOTAL); STATE 58628 (NOTAL)

1. ISRAELI EMBASSY IN SEOUL ANNOUNCED MARCH 15 THAT IT WOULD CLOSE EFFECTIVE APRIL 1 AND THAT ISRAELI EMBASSY TOKYO WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCT OF RELATIONS WITH ROK THEREAFTER. KOREANS CONTINUE TO EXPRESS THE HOPE FOR CONTINUED GOOD RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL, AND THE PRESS RECENTLY CARRIED A RATHER FULSOME EXCHANGE OF GOOD WISHES BETWEEN ISRAELI AMBASSADOR RON AND ACTING CHAIRMAN YI HYU-SANG OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN PARTY WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM A TRIP TO ISRAEL.

2. ON THE OTHER HAND, ANY MOVE FOR THE KOREAN AMBASSADOR IN ROME TO PRESENT HIS CREDENTIALS TO ISRAEL SEEMS HIGHLY UNLIKELY. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THIS MATTER INFORMALLY  
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WITH TWO FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA BUREAU. BOTH OUR SOURCES SAY THEY HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY CONSIDERATION BEING GIVEN TO THE PROPOSAL, AND ADD THEIR PERSONAL VIEWS THAT THEY DOUBT IT WOULD HAPPEN. THEY NOTE THE GREAT IMPORTANCE, BOTH ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICALLY, WHICH THE PRESENT GOOD RELATIONS WITH

THE ARAB WORLD HAVE FOR THE ROK, AND QUESTION WHAT  
BENEFIT THEY COULD EXPECT FROM CLOSER RELATIONS WITH  
ISRAEL TO OFFSET THE DAMAGE SUCH ACCREDITATION WOULD OCCASION  
IN RELATIONS WITH THE ARABS.  
SNEIDER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC MISSION CLOSING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SEOUL02139  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780117-0645  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 64907, 78 STATE 58628  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 3307651  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CLOSING OF ISRAELI EMBASSY IN SEOUL  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PDIP, KS, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014